(c) whether it is also a fact that National Bank for Rural and Agricultural Developmeut and Commercial Banks have refused to sanction SPA II and in the same cases SPA I projects; and if so, what is the number of such schemes along with the reasons therefore; and

(d) whether Government propose to institute an enquiry into these matters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of he House.

Arrears of operation of NPTC and REC

983. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the fact that National Power Transmission Corporation have been set-up by Government to ensure proper implementation of transmission and distribution of power in States, Government propose to review the very utility of the Rural Electrification Corporation; and

(b) if not, what are the different areas of operation of the two Corporations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b) NPTC has been set up to undertake the laying of extra high voltage and HDVC Transmission systems and associated sub-stations as well as constructing load despatch and communication facilities in a co-ordinated and efficient manner throughout the country, with a view to move large blocks of powers from Central generating sources to load centres within the regions as well as across the regions in a co-ordinated and efficient manner in order to ultimately create a national power grid REC was constituted to give impuetsu to Rural Electrification all over India. The main functions assigned to REC are as under:—

(i) to finance rural electrification schemes in the country;

(ii) to subscribe to special rural electrification bonds that may be issued by the State Electricity Boards on conditions to be stipulated from time to time;

(iii) to promote and finance rural electricity co-operatives in the country;

(iv) to administer the moneys received from time to time from the Government of India and other sources as grants or otherwise for the purpose of financing rural electrification in the country in general.

ITDC office deputed to Radisson Hotels International, USA

984. PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 201 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th July, 1991 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ITDC has deputed number of its officers and executives for training course to Radisson Hotels International, USA during the year;

(b) whether there has been huge expenditure in foreign exchange;

(c) whether not much business has been forthcoming out of the collaboration of ITDC with Radisson Hotels International; and

(d) If so, what are the details in this regard?